(d) Due to acute shortage of manpower, all the trains are not provided with escorts. However, most of the important trains are provided with RPF / GRP escorts during night.

**Fixation of pay of running staff**

1386. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the basic pay of running staff is more than the ordinary staff in the Ministry of Railways after the implementation of recommendation of Sixth Central Pay Commission (CPC); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the formula adopted for fixation of pay of running staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The revised pay in the pay band of running staff has been computed in the following manner : The existing basic pay as on 1.1.2006 has been multiplied by a factor of 1.86 and the sum so arrived is added by an amount representing DA on the pay element @ 86% of 30% of existing basic pay. The resultant figure has been rounded off to next multiple of 10. After determining the pay in the pay band in above manner, grade pay corresponding to the existing scale is payable. In case of other staff the pay in the pay band has been fixed simply by multiplying basic pay as on 01.01.2006 by a factor of 1.86. The dearness allowance to running staff is payable on basic pay and pay element of running allowance, while the same is payable to other employees on the basic pay alone. Due to this fact the revised basic pay of running staff at a particular stage in any specific existing (pre-revised) pay scale is generally higher than an ordinary staff at corresponding pre-revised stage & scale, after implementation of Sixth Central Pay Commission pay structure.

**Proposals from Maharashtra for railway projects**

1387. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals and other particulars for construction of new lines, doubling/widening of existing railway lines received from Maharashtra Government which are pending for consideration and approval in last three years, year-wise;

(b) when these proposals were received from Maharashtra Government; and

(c) the present status and by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Projects affected by global meltdown**

1388. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRJ VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the global meltdown is threatening to take a toll on the Indian Railways and the early warning signals are here;